

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2009**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Sharon D. Dillon, and Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 8:01 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Dahlstedt led the gallery in the salute to the flag.

III. AGENDA:

- a) \*7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Skagit Conservation District Board Meeting (Best Western Cotton Tree Inn, Mount Vernon, WA)
- b) 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Public Works- Thomas G. Ballard, Interim Director
  - 1. County Engineer's 2009 Annual Bridge Report

Thomas G. Ballard, Interim Public Works Director, introduced Anne Marie Gutwein, Transportation Section Manager, to brief the Board on the 2009 Annual Bridge Report, which will be sent to the County Road Administration Board and the Washington State Department of Transportation. Every bridge in Skagit County is inspected (there are 105 bridges in Skagit County) and the data from each inspection is put into a program which gives the bridge a sufficiency rating which rates the usability. Some bridges are coming due for rehabilitation. The Public Works Department is working on a 50-year bridge plan.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Gutwein for the update, and thanked Public Works for their diligence.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Public Works to discuss.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 8:11 a.m.

- c) 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Consideration of the Hearing Examiner's Recommendation for Approval of:

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 9:03 a.m.

Linda White and Karie Storle were present from the Skagit County Assessor's Office to brief the Board on each of the three Open Space applications.

- 1. Current Use Open Space Farm and Ag Conservation Application of Grace

Oosterhof for property located on State Route 9 in the Mount Vernon Area (C/UTROS #2-2009)

After briefing the Board on Ms. Oosterhof's application, the Commissioners had questions about the transferring and re-transferring of the parcel. Ms. White explained that the interim transferring and re-transferring is acceptable and that it has become an acceptable way to handle this type of situation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve a Resolution Concerning an Open Space Application of Grace Oosterhof CUTROS #2-2009. (**Resolution No. R20090510**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. **Current Use Open Space Application of Nookachamps, LLC C/O Wildlands, Inc. for property located west of Frances Road and east of the Skagit River (C/UTROS #1-2009)**

After briefing the Board on the Nookachamps, LLC application, the Commissioner's had many questions regarding the wetland mitigation bank part of the request which Ms. White and Ms. Storle did not have answers to. The Commissioners decided to put this application on hold until they could meet with the Planning and Development Services Department, Don Munks, and Wes Hagen, in order to get clarification on the application before rendering a decision.

3. **Current Use Timber Program Application of David R. Piper for property located on Gunderson Road in the Mount Vernon Area (C/UTRTMB #2-2009)**

After briefing the Board on the David R. Piper application, the Commissioners did not have any questions. The owner of this parcel is requesting a transfer from the Farm and Agriculture Program to the Timber Program. In a short plat process, the owner purchased the home site and woods. When he was audited for farm income, it was found that he has no farm. The Commissioners were in concurrence that Mr. Piper needed to be in placed in the correct program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve a Resolution Concerning an Open Space Application of David R. Piper CUTRTMB #2-2009. (**Resolution No. R20090509**) Commissioner Dillon seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:16 a.m.

- d) 9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Adoption of Skagit County's Budget for 2010

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 9:45 a.m.

Trisha Logue, Budget and Finance Director, was present to brief the Commissioners on some of the changes made to the proposed budget for 2010.

Commissioner Wesen commented that this was the first full budget he has worked through and he stated that the Commissioners have to balance the budget, it is one of their jobs, and he realizes this affects people, but the budget has to balance and we need to work together.

Commissioner Dillon thanked Trisha Logue, Tiffany Caulk, Chris Stamey, the management team, and shared hopes that the County would come out of this better in the end. Commissioner Dillon stated that the 2010 budget would be tracked carefully.

Chairman Dahlstedt agreed with the other Commissioners and thanked everyone. He stated that Washington State is still considering multiple budget cuts which will most likely affect Skagit County's 2010 budget, but there are still opportunities for grants. Chairman Dahlstedt stated that 18 people will no longer be employed with Skagit County, that this has been one of the most difficult budgets to balance, and that some of the staff has been unfairly blamed, but ultimately each budget decision is the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve the Adoption of the 2010 Skagit County Budget. (**Resolution No. R20090511**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Billie Kadrmas, Human Resource and Risk Management Director, presented three resolutions to the Commissioners regarding salary levels for elected officials, wage levels for non-represented employees, and the implementation of 12 non-paid closure days for non-represented employees. Discussions regarding non-paid closure days for represented employees are on-going with the various unions.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve a Resolution Authorizing 12 Unpaid Closure Days. (**Resolution No. R20090512**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve a Resolution Establishing Salary Levels for Certain Skagit County Elected Officials for 2010. (**Resolution No. R20090513**) Commissioner Dillon seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve a Resolution Establishing 2010 Salaries for Regular Full-Time and Regular Part-Time Non-Represented Employees. (**Resolution No. R20090514**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:54 a.m.

e) 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Planning and Development Services Department - Gary Christensen, Director

1. Discussion - 2008 Comprehensive Plan Amendments and the Sanfi Acres Remanded Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:30 a.m. Gary Christensen, Director of Planning Development Services, introduced Carly Ruacho, Senior Planner, who presented information to the Board regarding the three 2008 Comprehensive Plan Amendments. The first application regarding the Stiles property was discussed and Ms. Ruacho informed the Commissioners that the Planning Department is recommending denial of this request and that the Planning Commission is recommending approval of the request. The second application regarding the Stockinger request was discussed. Ms. Ruacho informed the Commissioners that both the Planning Department and the Planning Commission recommend denial of the request. The third application regarding the Pomeroy property was discussed. Ms. Ruacho informed the Commissioners that both the Planning Department and the Planning Commission recommend approval of the request. The Sanfi Acres proposal was discussed. Ms. Ruacho informed the Commissioners that the Planning Commission was unable to reach an official recommendation for the request and she stated that a memo would be forwarded to them regarding the recommendations for each application. She also stated that the transcript from the Planning Commission's discussion on Sanfi Acres would be forwarded to the Commissioners for their information.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Planning and Development to discuss.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:53 a.m.

f) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Public Hearing To Consider the Adoption of Emergency Management Services and Central Valley Ambulance's 2010 Budget

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:02 a.m. and opened the public hearing.

Earl Klinefelter, Manager for Skagit County Emergency Medical Services Commission, shared information with the Commissioners regarding changes coming up regarding contracting services. He thanked the Commissioners for their help and support.

Seeing no one present for public testimony, Commissioner Dillon made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Commissioner Wesen. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 11:11 a.m.

g) 11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Public Comment Period

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:30 a.m.

Seeing no one present for the public comment period, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public comment period, which was seconded by Commissioner Dillon. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 11:31 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

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Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner

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Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Linda Hammons, Clerk of the Board  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners